

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 1, 3-29, and 32-34; claims 30-31 have been canceled. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-29 and 32-34 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Examiner Objections – Information Disclosure Statement

The Information Disclosure statement filed February 17, 2006 was objected because it failed to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each foreign patent document; each non-patent literature or that portion that caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. Applicant hereby re-submits the Information Disclosure Statement with a copy of the required reference.

3.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-14, and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter as the invention. The Applicants have corrected the deficiencies in claims 1, 9, 10, 13, and 27 and the Applicants respectfully submit that remaining claims are now allowable.

4.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-3, 5-13, 15-18, 20-27, 29-30 and 32-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Faccin, *et al.* (US 2001/0049790). The Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection and have further amended the pending claims to more clearly and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants consider as their invention. A favorable review and reconsideration is hereby requested.

The Faccin reference discloses an invention for overcoming a single profile limitation associated with particular subscriber equipment especially when such

subscriber equipment is roaming or trying to access multiple networks. Faccin, for example, explains that “[a]ccess to a home network, through a visited network, has been limited to a single level of access. As a result, subscriber equipment has not been portable across multiple visited networks which are connected to a home network in view of their functionality being limited to a single level or type of access.”

As a result, Faccin further explains that “[i]n essence, each visited network through which a subscriber obtains access to a home network is limited to a single subscriber profile and does not provide for multiple subscriber profiles to facilitate different types of connectivity of a subscriber through a visited network to a home network.” (emphasis added, Paragraph 2, Faccin)

Accordingly, in order to allow the subscriber to obtain different access to multiple networks, Faccin discloses using an “application level message”. The application level message includes a subscriber identity and level of access to any network (which may be the home network, any one of the plurality of networks or another network to which the subscriber may be connected). This level of access may be in the form of an access mode ID comprised of a plurality of bits which uniquely identify one of a plurality of choices of level of access to another network which are available to any network to which the subscriber may connect subscriber equipment (Paragraph 6, Faccin). The Faccin invention therefore discloses a system providing “different levels or types of access that may be used to provide diverse types of connectivity.” Such access may be different degree of bandwidth, different level of secured communications, different supplemental services, etc (Paragraph 8, Faccin).

Applicants respectfully submit that Faccin has nothing to do with the present invention. The present application instead discloses and claims an invention wherein a second user authentication is avoided by allowing an implicit authentication to be performed with a multimedia domain when a previous explicit authentication has already been performed over an access network wherein user equipment is accessing the multimedia domain through that already authenticated access network. An advantage of the present invention, for example, is to reduce the total amount of authentication operations performed by the user or the user's equipment thereby reducing avoidable

signaling messages in the multimedia domain while maintaining the required security level.

Claim 1 as now amended in listed below for the Examiner's review:

1. A device for Multimedia authentication of a user equipment accessing a Multimedia domain through an access network, the device associated with a subscriber server of the access network holding authentication data for the user equipment and accessible to the Multimedia domain, the device comprising:

means for authentication said user equipment by the subscriber server within said access network;

means for deciding that an implicit authentication between the user equipment and the Multimedia domain can take place based on said previous authentication of the user equipment by the access network thus skipping the needs for an explicit authentication with the Multimedia domain; and

means for instructing a serving entity in charge of authenticating the user equipment in the Multimedia domain that implicit authentication can take place.

The Applicants submit that the Faccin reference may disclose an authentication procedure for authenticating user equipment with a particular access network. However, nothing in Faccin discloses or teaches the recited "means for deciding that an implicit authentication between the user equipment and the multimedia domain can take place based on the previous authentication of the user equipment by the access network." Furthermore, nothing in Faccin discloses or teaches the next recited "means for instructing a serving entity in charge of authenticating the user equipment in the multimedia domain that implicit authentication can take place".

The Examiner cited paragraph 10 of Faccin as supposedly disclosing such recited limitations. However, the Applicants respectfully submits that paragraph 10 of the Faccin reference merely discloses a mechanism for generating and communicating access type indicator to the home network. Faccin states that such access type indicator can be transmitted directly to or through a visited network to the home network which identifies the type of access network at which registration has occurred. However, nothing in paragraph 10 of the Faccin reference discloses or teaches the recited means

for “deciding that an implicit authentication between the user equipment and the multimedia domain can take place based on the previous authentication of the user equipment by the access network thus skipping the need for an explicit authentication with the multimedia domain.”

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submits that Faccin fails to anticipate or render obvious each and every element of presently pending Claim 1. Applicants further submit that remaining independent Claims 10, 15, 23, 29 and 32 likewise recite limitations that are not anticipated or rendered obvious by the Faccin reference. For example, Faccin similarly fails to anticipate or render obvious the recited limitation in Claim 10 wherein “a notification received from the multimedia domain indicating that an implicit authentication for the user equipment can be carried out by the network based on the first explicit authentication procedure with the access network and notifying the user equipment not to perform the second explicit authentication procedure with the multimedia domain.”

A Notice of Allowance for all pending independent claims and their dependent claims is therefore respectfully requested.

5.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 4, 14, 19, 28, 31, and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Faccin, *et al.* (US 2001/0049790). Claim 31 has been cancelled without prejudice. The remaining Claims 4, 14, 19, 28, and 34 depend from now allowable independent Claims 1, 10, 15, 23, and 32 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements thereof. Therefore, the allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

/John C. Han, Reg#41403/

John C. Han
Registration No. 41,403

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Ericsson Inc.
6300 Legacy Drive, M/S EVR 1-C-11
Plano, Texas 75024

(972) 583-7686
john.han@ericsson.com